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Current Events

[Edited by Clarence W. Gleason, Roxbury Latin School, Boston, Mass., for the territory covered by the Association of New England and the Atlantic States; Daniel W. Lothman, East High School, Cleveland, Ohio, for the Middle States, west to the Mississippi River; Walter Miller, the University of Missouri, Columbia, Mo., for the Southern States; and Franklin H. Potter, the University of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa, for the territory of the Association west of the Mississippi, exclusive of Louisiana and Texas. News from the Pacific Coast may be sent to Miss Julianne A. Roller, Franklin High School, Portland, Ore., and to Miss Bertha Green, Hollywood High School, Los Angeles, Cal. This department will present everything that is properly news—occurrences from month to month, meetings, changes in faculties, performances of various kinds, etc. All news items should be sent to the associate editors named above.]

California

Stockton.—Cash prizes to the extent of a hundred dollars a year for excellence in Latin have just been established in the Stockton High School through the generosity of Mr. George F. McNoble, a local attorney, and graduate of the University of California. The designation "S. D. Waterman Latin Prizes" has been adopted, in honor of a veteran teacher of the classics, who was at one time principal of the Stockton High School.

In his letter to the board of education, the donor thus expresses himself:

Desiring to encourage the study of the classics, and especially of Latin, in our public schools in Stockton, and believing that evidence abounds that a revival of a study of the classics is necessary to improve the tone and quality of modern scholarship in our schools, and being further satisfied that an award of prizes for proficiency in such studies may stimulate and encourage better work throughout the schools, I herewith undertake to assist in this matter.

Long Beach.—On March 4, 1921, the Latin Club of the Long Beach Polytechnic High School presented an assembly program, including the following features: Vestal Virgins' Ceremony to the Gods; a Roman Wedding; Greek Maidens Playing Ball; and a Classic Frieze. This successful entertainment was under the direction of the Latin teacher, Miss Florence M. Kimball, assisted by the applied art class of Misses Gee and Steele.

Kentucky

Louisville.—Harrison D. Cannon, head of the Latin department of the Louisville Male High School, writes:

Sample copies of the *Latin Club Bulletin* of the Louisville Male High School, a semi-monthly publication, are being received by various schools throughout the country. Appreciative acknowledgments are now coming in to the student editors and faculty, and undoubtedly there would have been an even greater response if the

managing editor and others in authority had noticed the omission in the little paper of its place of publication. This oversight has now been corrected.

Among the educators who have been the first to write encouraging letters are Dr. H. C. Nutting, of the University of California, Principal Daniel W. Lothman, of Cleveland, and Principal Charles P. Bond, of the Yeatman High School of St. Louis. By the time this article appears there will have been many others to add inspiration to this work. The S.P.Q.R. organization in Louisville wishes thus publicly to thank these gentlemen and all others of the same high-minded and generous character by whose words of approval the editors of the little paper are being greatly heartened.

The writer of this news item has been asked by the *Classical Journal* to set forth briefly the purpose and scope of the publication in question. The *Bulletin* itself is its own best exponent. The editors will very gladly mail to any teacher so requesting a sample copy for inspection. Modest and unpretentious, in homespun dress, bearing no brand of the skilled imprimeur, it rests its case in the character and quality of its contents and the commendable spirit of its enterprise. In fact these are the very qualities of artlessness which render it available to every school and club as an organ for the publication of its news and activities and an inspiration to better work.

The last thought, then, as just stated, expresses the motive in the institution of the *Latin Club Bulletin*. We found that the one page allotted to us in our regular school monthly was becoming insufficient to meet the needs of the rapidly growing club, and so we started this publication of our own, merely a three-page, 8 by 10 sheet, typewritten and neatly mimeographed and stapled, issued every two weeks. To cover the small cost of production we charge our members five cents a copy. Already the paper is self-supporting. We offer several different prizes in competition. About one quarter of the issue is in Latin for which we offer credit in class work for translation. Oftentimes some exemplary home work of students is published.

Furthermore, besides being the medium of publishing the business of the club, through its columns we are striving to do our bit in holding up before the eyes of administrative officers the need of a quick return to sound educational foundations. Our ideal is twofold: first, to induce the Latin departments in every school in the country to start and maintain a little paper like our own, so that through its exchange with all other publications of its kind the classical workers throughout this great country may be brought together in a close bond of fellowship; second, that our forces may be united in the struggle against the free thought and license issuing from great centers of learning and adopted on faith by the unwary. The thought of students of the classics is against the chaotic trend in the public-school system today. We hear the call to battle when we read the news item, just out of a suburb of Chicago, that a school superintendent has told the students and teachers under him that it is prudish to speak the English language correctly any longer. You must say, "It is me." now, or be open to the charge of being "affected" in speech. *O tempora! O mores! Ubi gentium sumus? Senatus haec intellegit, consul*

videt—hic tamen vivit. The old school and its exquisite culture is in disrepute in America. Is it one of our national weaknesses—or is it a mark of strength—that we are prone, as a people, to hold in disdain what is old? Many of us still believe, however, that the old education has not yet lived out its years, and if its advocates join forces, the stalking of the grim threat of educational bolshevism through our land shall be halted and its beclouded leaders brought back to reason.

We are hoping that everyone who believes that the elementary school should provide first of all for thorough instruction in the technique of English grammar and in those other subjects which are of vital importance in preparing for the work in the secondary schools, will aid in forwarding the classical revival and strive in all earnestness to help check the present deplorable tendency to corrupt the schools. In every school are students, bright and capable, who are waiting for a leader. Organize a classical club, select your editorial staff, and set to work. To quote Dr. McClarty, of Transylvania, "There is no greater force for classical progress than a classical club of students." Let the students organize themselves under your quiet supervision. That is the secret. Many a teacher fails to realize what a mine of wealth lies ready for the working right at his feet. Yet, like some of the forces of Nature, this power is allowed to go to waste.

Iowa

Iowa City.—The third annual conference of the Latin teachers of Iowa was held at the state university, March 4 and 5. The opening session was devoted to college problems. Professor E. F. Schall, of Parsons College, spoke on "The Adjustment of the College Latin Course to Present High-School Conditions." Professor Magnuson, of the university, discussed "What Should Constitute a Unit in Second-Year High-School Latin." Professor A. M. Rovelstad, of Luther College, discussed the subject of entrance credit for junior high school Latin.

The topics discussed in the other sessions were: "The Shortage of High-School Latin Teachers and Its Remedy," by Professor Ensign, of the department of education in the university, and by Professor Denny, of Drake University; "Junior High-School Latin," by Superintendent T. B. Stewart, of Jefferson; "Recent Developments in the Teaching of Latin," by Professor Ullman, of the university; "The Teaching of Vocabulary," by Professor Potter, of the university, and by Margaret Kemble, of Muscatine; "Latin and English," by Professor Hardin Craig, head of the department of English in the university.

On Friday evening the conference met in the Little Theater of the Experimental Schools Building to witness exhibitions by the pupils of the University High School consisting of a Dance of the Nymphs given under the direction of Miss Jean Speirs, and one of Professor Schlicher's plays, *Coniuratio*, given under the direction of Miss Helen Eddy. At this session pupils from the city

high school under the direction of Miss Brownell and Miss Grove sang several Latin songs.

The session on Saturday morning adjourned to the Strand Theater to see the six-reel moving picture *Julius Caesar*, which is one of the George Kleine Cycle of Film Classics. This was presented through the courtesy of Mr. Kleine. All were deeply impressed with the possibilities of this picture as a means of arousing interest in Latin and especially in Caesar. Steps are being taken to have this picture exhibited in several cities of the state.

Pennsylvania

Philadelphia.—The annual meeting of the Philadelphia Classical League was held on Saturday, March 12, Miss Jessie E. Allen, of the Philadelphia High School for Girls, presiding. Routine business included among other things the reading of the secretary's report. This report set forth the vigor and strength of the League, and reviewed briefly the year's activities. The meetings held during the year were more successful than any in the League's history, the February dinner having been attended by seventy-four persons. The membership of the League is now one hundred and thirty-three—all professional classicists. The suggestion has been made that the Philadelphia Classical League is the strongest local association of professional classicists in America. Letters were received and read from two members of the League who are spending the year at the American Academy in Rome—Professor Walton Brooks McDaniel, of the University of Pennsylvania, and Dr. Ethel Chubb, of the Philadelphia High School for Girls. Officers for the coming year were elected as follows: president, Dr. Richard M. Gummere, formerly professor of Latin in Haverford College and now headmaster of William Penn Charter School; vice-president, Dr. Bessie R. Burchett, head of classical department, South Philadelphia High School for Girls; treasurer, Gertrude Bricker, West Philadelphia High School for Girls; secretary, Arthur W. Howes, Central High School.

The intellectual feature of the meeting was an illustrated talk on "The Appeal of Greek Sculpture" by Dr. Rhys Carpenter, professor of classical archaeology in Bryn Mawr College, and secretary of the Archaeological Institute of Pennsylvania. Dr. Carpenter set forth with convincing force and copious illustrations the essential characteristics and inner meaning of each of the successive schools of Greek sculpture.

South Carolina

Columbia.—The first meeting of the Southern Section of the Classical Association of the Middle West and South took place in Columbia, South Carolina on February 24-26. From every point of view it was a complete success. It was attended by college and high-school teachers from almost every state in the territory, from Virginia to Mississippi. One of the noteworthy features of the gathering was the interest it excited among the public generally, apart

from the classical teachers. All the sessions were attended by laymen, and the public lectures scheduled for the evening sessions drew crowded houses.

The University of South Carolina was a most generous and hospitable host. Not only did it furnish meeting places, but it contributed cash to the expenses of the meeting and devoted space in its publications to publicity. The local committee of representatives from the various colleges of the city did excellent work in making provision for the entertainment and amusement of the visitors. The society was honored by receptions by President and Mrs. Currell, of the university, and by President and Mrs. Byrd, of the Chicora College for Women, and by a luncheon given by the city Chamber of Commerce.

The program of papers was as follows: "Address of Welcome," by President W. S. Currell; "Response for the Association," by Professor George Howe, of the University of North Carolina; "Roumania, Youngest Daughter of Rome," by Professor C. U. Clark, former director of the American School at Rome; "Recent Inscriptional Literature," by Professor G. A. Harrer, of the University of North Carolina; "Some Foreign Words Naturalized" (read by title), by Professor A. P. Hamilton, of Millsaps College, Virginia; "Latin by Correspondence for High Schools," by Professor G. F. Nicolassen, of Oglethorpe University, Georgia; "Aristophanes the Modern" (read by title), by Professor C. W. Peppler, of Trinity College, North Carolina; "The Classics at the University of South Carolina," by Major J. F. J. Caldwell, of Newberry, South Carolina; "The Latest Word from Italy and the Balkans," by Professor C. U. Clark; "Some Notes on Juvenal's Fifth Satire," by Professor H. M. Poteat, of Wake Forest College, North Carolina; "Classical Authors in Their Use of Sources" (read by title), by Professor C. E. Boyd, of Emory University, Georgia; "The Classics as Scientific Study," by Professor D. M. Key, of Millsaps College, Mississippi; "The Place of Greek in Our Schools," by Professor A. M. McWhorter, of Hampden-Sydney College, Virginia; "General Literature and the Teacher of the Classics," by Professor J. B. Game, of Florida College for Women; "The School of Hellas," by President Fairfax Harrison, of the Southern Railway; "Buried Cities of Asia Minor," by Professor D. M. Robinson, of Johns Hopkins University; "Two Empires," by Professor W. D. Hooper, of the University of Georgia; "The Revelation of Aeneas's Mission," by Professor George Howe, of the University of North Carolina; "High School Problems," an open forum conducted by Professor J. B. Game, of the Florida College for Women.

To list papers and to speak appreciatively of splendid entertainment and genuine hospitality is to tell only a part of the tale; for the benefits derived from the meeting were much more far-reaching than those merely of a royal good time. The two most striking qualities of the session taken as a whole were the pronounced enthusiasm for the cause itself manifested both by the participants and by the general public, and the stimulus to scholarship and to the promotion of the classical tradition. In both these respects the undertaking

was completely justified. The paucity of general meeting in the South has deprived the cause of the classics heretofore of a very valuable form of publicity for which there is no substitute. So fine, on this occasion, was the response of the public that vistas were at once opened up of the possibilities of profitable propaganda by continuing the meetings as an annual event and by moving them year by year to different parts of the territory included. Thus will be supplied the needed inspiration which heretofore has been lacking because of the want of contact between fellow-workers or of a proper channel through which could flow the results of their efforts.

The following officers for the coming year were elected: president, Professor George Howe, of the University of North Carolina; vice-president, Miss Minnie Gee, of Converse College, South Carolina; secretary-treasurer, Professor E. L. Green, of the University of South Carolina; executive council, Professor A. M. McWhorter, of Hampden-Sydney College, Professor H. M. Poteat, of Wake Forest College, North Carolina, Professor Bothwell Graham, of Clinton, South Carolina, Professor W. D. Hooper, of the University of Georgia, Professor J. B. Game, of the Florida College of Women, Professor W. B. Saffold, of the University of Alabama, Professor D. M. Key, of Millsaps College, Mississippi, Professor E. L. Scott, of the University of Louisiana, Professor R. B. Steele, of Vanderbilt University, Tennessee.